

REMARKS

Further to the Advisory Action of April 13, 2006, Applicant timely submits a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and a Preliminary Amendment. Applicant submits that this Preliminary Amendment amends Claim 1 but does not amend Claims 2-3, 5-7, 14-21 and 23 of the After Final Amendment filed on March 28, 2006.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

It is noted that the Preliminary Amendment is made only to more particularly define the invention and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

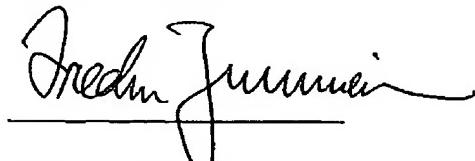
It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claims, even if amended herein or amended during prosecution.

Early, favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

If necessary, please charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayment to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 50-1114.

Respectfully submitted,

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Fredric J. Zimmerman
Registration No. 48,747

Office of Counsel Code OC4
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Indian Head Division
101 Strauss Ave., Bldg. D-31
Indian Head, Maryland 20640-5035
(301) 744-5603